

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

Restoring a mass storage device, including the corresponding data blocks stored thereon, to a state in which it existed at a prior instant in time to minimize the data loss caused by data blocks becoming corrupt or lost. After a mirrored or backup copy has been made, data blocks that are to be overwritten in response to a write request are stored in a preservation memory prior to being overwritten. The data blocks stored in the preservation memory are time-stamped to designate the chronological order by which the data blocks were overwritten. If data becomes corrupted, the data blocks of the preservation memory are applied to the corrupted data in reverse chronological order until such time that a valid, non-corrupted set of data is obtained. In this manner, data more recent than that associated with the full mirrored or backup copy can be reconstructed.

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